SIATRAS NUMISMATIC STUDIES, 17

Jean N. Svoronos

THE THIBRONIAN COIN *and* Other Essays *on the* Numismatics *of the* Aegean

DEMETRIUS SIATRAS
Publisher
ATHENS 2025

17-THIBRONIAN:Σχέδιο 1 21/01/2026 08:21 Page 6

SIATRAS SERIES OF NUMISMATIC STUDIES, No. 17

Jean N. Svoronos
The Thibronian Coin and Other Essays on the Numismatics of the Aegean

© Copyright: D.N. Siatras, 2025.

ISBN: 978-618-5818-19-7

Edited, translated into English and published by Demetrius Siatras.

17-THIBRONIAN:Σχέδιο 1 21/01/2026 08:21 Page 7

TABLE OF CONTENTS

FOREWORD 9

1. The Thibronian coin 11

2. Coeranus of Paros on the archaic coins of Syros 23

3. Coins of Apollonia Pontica and the Peparethus island 37

4. Coins of Scyros 41

5. Archaic coins of Scyros and coins of the Athenian *clerouchoi* of Scyros, Imbros and Lemnos 53

6. Coins of the Athenian *clerouchoi* of Delos found on Delos and Myconos 59

7. The Grammenon hoard / 1901 63

8. Some coins of Mytilene 73

9. The Oreus hoard / 1902 (171 BC) 79

10. The coinage of Enaea, Caria 91

11. The Sophicon find / 1893 101

PLATES 113

17-THIBRONIAN:Σχέδιο 1 21/01/2026 08:21 Page 9

FOREWORD

This book is a compilation of papers on the numismatics of the Aegean, originally published in Greek by J.N. Svoronos in his renowned *Journal international d'archéologie numismatique* over a century ago — except for one, which was published in French in the *Rivista Italiana di Numismatica.*

Despite the time that has passed since their publication, these articles remain of interest today, particularly those focused on hoards discovered in the region: the Grammenon hoard (1901), the Oreus hoard (1902), and the Sophicon find (1893). We have therefore translated them into English and produced a new international edition.

Demetrius N. Siatras
Athens, September 2025

17-THIBRONIAN:Σχέδιο 1 21/01/2026 08:21 Page 11

ΦΕΙΔΩΝΕΙΟΝ ΤΟ ΘΙΒΡΩΝΕΙΟΝ ΝΟΜΙΣΜΑ
The Thibronian coin. ***Actually, a Pheidonian one!***

A unique phrase found only in patriarch Photius' *Lexicon* initiated a big discussion among the wise men who tried to find out who was Thibron and which were the coins he issued:

Θιβρώνειον νόμισμα ἐδόκει ἀπὸ Θίβρωνος τοῦ χαράξαντος εἰρῆσθαι.[1]
[= They thought there was a Thibronian coin,
so named from the name of Thibron, who struck it.]

Let's see in brief the history of this discussion which until today has resulted in no final conclusion.

In the year 1860, Meinecke wrote that this coin took the name of the Lacedaemonian officer *(harmostēs)* Thibron who in the years of the *katabasis of the Myrioi* (*The Ten Thousand*, 400 BC) was the leader of the Greek troops that had been sent against the satrap Tissaphernes.[2] At the same time, the great Mommsen agreed adding the hypothesis that the Thibronian coin is the known Thracian silver stater with the inscription ΣΕΥΘΑ ΑΡΓΥΡΙΟΝ, where ΣΕΥΘΑΣ was the name of the Thracian ruler under whom Thibron served as the leader of the Greek mercenaries and successor of Xenophon.[3]

To this last opinion Hultsch was opposed[4] and in 1878 Lenormant[5] considered it a military coin *(monnaie militaire)* of Thibron, but struck in Lampsacus, "*malheureusement on n'a pu encore appliquer ce nom de monnaie thibronienne à une espèce numismatique connue*".

---

[1] Photius, in l. = Hultsch, *Metrologicorum scriptorum reliquiae* I, [Teubner 1864], p. 329.

[2] "Die thibronische Silbermünze". *Philologus* XV, 1860, p. 140.

[3] *Geschichte des römichen Münzwesens*, Berlin 1860, p. 65.

[4] De Damareto S. 8, 5.

[5] *La monnaie dans l'antiquité*, tom. II, pp. 258-259.

17-THIBRONIAN:Σχέδιο 1 21/01/2026 08:21 Page 59

Coins of the Athenian *clerouchoi* of Delos found on Delos and Myconos

To further strengthen our previous study on Scyros, especially our writings on the pages 45-46, as well as to support and complete the arguments of Köhler in his study *Die Münze der Kleruchen auf Delos*,[1] we describe here a few coins, all of them found on Delos and Myconos and collected with care and knowledge by the locar curator of antiquities, D. Stavropoulos, who sent them to the Athens Numismatic Museum accompanied by the following note:

> *" Here are 114 ancient coins I have collected for the National Numismatic Museum, most of which were found in Delos; on 11 of these I read* ΔΗΛΙΩΝ *and on 91* ΑΘΗΝΑΙΩΝ. *All of the latter but two (of which one is silver) bear only Delian types and it seems that they were issued for Delos, when it was under Athenian rule."*

Delian coins are the well-known small pieces that bear the head of Apollo and on the reverse side a lyre or a palm tree with a swan; the silver Athenian coin is the drachm of the magistrates' [Archontes] era and particularly of the series *ΤΙΜΟΣΤΡΑΤΟΣ ΠΟΣΗΣ* of which the drachm was unknown to Beulé. Finally, what is most interesting to us is the ninety pieces contained in our catalogue, which consists only of copper coins (see next page).

[1] *Athen. Mittheil.* VI, 238 *et seq*.

17-THIBRONIAN:Σχέδιο 1 21/01/2026 08:21 Page 64

CATALOGUE

AR

MACEDONIA

Years of Philip V (185-168 BC)

1-4. — Four tetrobols. MA / KE club among them. The whole in the centre of a Macedonian shield.

Ω Macedonian helmet to the left; in the field:

Μ — ΜΕ
Ι — *tripod.* 4

5-8.—Four similar pieces, but with

Ν — ΔΙ
Ι — *thunderbolt.* 4

9-14.—Six similar pieces, but with

Σ — ΔΙ
Ι — *trident.* 6

15-17.—Three similar pieces, but with

Ε — ΔΙ
Ι — eight-ray *star.* 3

18.—One similar, but ΜΕ in the place of ΔΙ. 1

19.—Tetrobol. A similar shield, but in its centre a six-leg swastika to the *l.* in the place of the inscription and the club.

Ω ΜΑΚΕ above, ΔΟΝΩΝ below a prow to the right. In the field right ΜΕ. 1

1-19. Fine condition.

17-THIBRONIAN:Σχέδιο 1 21/01/2026 08:21 Page 108

403. —Müller, *ibid.*, No. 1693.
404. —Müller, *ibid.*, No. 1701.
405-407. —Müller, *ibid.*, No. 1710.

408–427. Various drachmae of Alexander in good condition, not listed in Müller.

	In front of Zeus	Under the throne
408. —	$\overline{\text{ΠΟ}}$ ΔΙ	—
409. —	$\overline{\text{MT}}$	$\overline{\text{OK}}$
410. —	$\overline{\text{EΦ}}$	$\overline{\text{AT}}$
411. —	$\overline{\text{ΠΥΡ}}$	$\overline{\text{ΣE}}$ (?)
412. —	KE	AΛ
413-415. —	$\overline{\text{ΣH}}$	$\overline{\text{ΛY}}$
416. —	—	ΛY
417. —	[Λ]Y	ΛY
418. —	$\overline{\text{MO}}$	$\overline{\text{HΔ}}$
419-420. —	N	—
421. —	$\overline{\text{NK}}$ and bee	—
422. —	—	$\overline{\text{ƎK}}$
423. —	—	Y or flower
424. —	M in a grain-ear wreath	Head of Pan?
425. —	$\overline{\text{AI}}$ in a wreath	—
426. —	Barley and Φ	Pentagon
427. —	Head, l.	$\overline{\text{ΘHP}}$

428-510. — Eighty three partially damaged drachmae bearing symbols, letters, etc.

511-737. — Two hundred twenty seven drachmae, completely ruined; some of them may belong to Philip III of Macedonia or to Seleucus I of Syria.

17-THIBRONIAN:Σχέδιο 1 21/01/2026 08:21 Page 119

PLATE III.

The Oreus hoard /1902 *(cont.).*

17-THIBRONIAN:Σχέδιο 1 21/01/2026 08:21 Page 131

SIATRAS SERIES OF NUMISMATIC STUDIES

1. *Το χαλκουν κομμα - The Pella Find (1914) and the Copper Coinage of Cassander*, by G.P. Oeconomos. Athens, 2017.

2. *The Myron Hoard/1914 - IGCH 62*, by J.N. Svoronos. Athens, 2019.

3. *Late Seleucid Mints in Ake-Ptolemais and Damascus - Editio nova*, by Edward Newell. Athens, 2023.

4. *Constantinian Coinage - The Delos Hoard / 1909*, by J.N. Svoronos.

5. *Νομίσματα του νεώτερου ελληνικού κόσμου 1566-2007*, Α.Π. Τζαμαλῆ.

6. *Coins of the Modern Greek World 1566-2007*, by A.P. Tzamalis.

7. *Syracusan "Medallions" and their Engravers*, by Arthur J. Evans.

8. *The Coinages of Demetrius Poliorcetes*, by Edward T. Newell.

9. *Die Gewichte und Werte der ptolemäischen Münzen, 3. Aufl. = Weights and Values of the Ptolemaic Coinage*, by F.O. Hultsch.

10. *Byzantine Lead Seals - The Stamoules' Collection*, by C.M. Constantopoulos. Athens, 2023.

11. *Numismatics and History of Myconos*, by Jean N. Svoronos.

12. *The Byzantine Lead Seals of Francesco Ficoroni*, by D.N. Siatras. Athens, 2025.

13. *Early Christian Numismatics - Coins of Constantine the Great. Coins of Salonina*, by Charles W. King. Athens, 2025.

14. *Βυζαντιακὰ νομισματικὰ ζητήματα* - EDITIO NOVA, ὑπὸ I.N. Σβορώνου. Ἀθῆναι, 2025.

15. *The Mediaeval Coins of Rhodes & Other Topics on Byzantine Numismatics*, by Jean N. Svoronos. Athens, 2025.

16. *The ex-Meletopoulos Collection of Greek and Roman Coins*, by D.N. Siatras. Athens, 2025.

17. *The Thibronian Coin and Other Essays on the Numismatics of the Aegean*, by Jean N. Svoronos. Athens, 2025.